

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-73. (Canceled)

74. (Previously presented) A composition comprising: 1) an antigen; 2) a saponin which is substantially pure QS21; 3) a sterol that is present in excess by weight with respect to the saponin and wherein the ratio of saponin to sterol does not exceed 1:100 w/w.

75. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 74 wherein the weight:weight ratio of QS21 to sterol is 1:2 to 1:100.

76. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 75 wherein the sterol is cholesterol.

77. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 74 which further comprises a derivative of an enterobacterial lipopolysaccharide.

78. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 74 which further comprises a metal particle salt carrier selected from the group consisting of phosphate and hydroxide salts of aluminum, zinc, calcium, cerium, chromium, iron, and beryllium.

79. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 76 which further comprises a 3-O-deacylated monophosphoryl lipid A.

80. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 76 which further comprises aluminum hydroxide or aluminum phosphate.

81. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 76 which further comprises a 3-O-deacylated monophosphoryl lipid A and aluminum hydroxide or aluminum phosphate.

82. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 79 wherein the saponin is at least 98% pure QS21.

83. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 74 wherein the sterol and the QS21 are in a vesicle-like structure.

84. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 74 wherein the antigen is derived from Human Immunodeficiency virus, Feline Immunodeficiency virus, Varicella Zoster virus, Herpes Simplex virus type 1, Herpes Simplex virus type 2, Human cytomegalovirus, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, Hepatitis E, Respiratory Syncytial virus, Human Papilloma virus, Influenza virus, Haemophilus Influenza B, Meningitis virus, Salmonella, Neisseria, Borrelia, Chlamydia, Bordetella, Plasmodium, or Toxoplasma.

85-93 (Canceled)

94. (Previously presented) The composition of 83 wherein the sterol is cholesterol and the vesicle like structures are unilamellar liposomes.

95. (New) The composition of claim 74 wherein the ratio of saponin to sterol is between above 1:1 and about 1:5. w/w.

96. (New) A method for reducing reactogenicity of a QS21 containing adjuvant formulation wherein QS21 is present in substantially purified form by addition of sterol to the adjuvant formulation, wherein the sterol is present in excess by weight with respect to the QS21.